

REMARKS**I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 10-11 are currently pending in the application.

By this Amendment, claim 11 has been amended. No new matter has been introduced by this Amendment. Thus, entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

II. Claim Rejections Under U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kinoshita et al. (US Patent No. 5,726,709).

In an image sensing apparatus disclosed in the cited reference Kinoshita, light from an object is split in four light beams by a prism and the light beams are sensed by four different image sensors that are not arranged on a single plane. The first and second image sensing areas thus do not exist on a single plane. This structure makes an optical system of the image sensing apparatus larger.

On the contrary, as claimed in claim 10, a first and second image sensing areas exist on a single plane. Therefore, an optical system of an image sensing apparatus becomes smaller than that of the cited reference Kinoshita. Further, the cited reference Kinoshita does not disclose the claimed feature which makes a resolution of an image higher.

Therefore, claims 10 and 11 are not anticipated by the cited reference and are distinguishable over the same.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

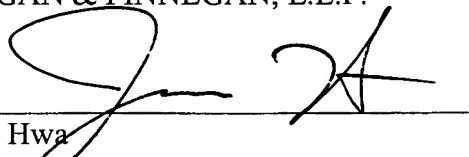
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4782.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4782.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

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By:


James Hwa
Registration No. 42,680
(202) 857-7887 Telephone
(202) 857-7929 Facsimile

Correspondence Address:

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
3 World Financial Center
New York, NY 10281-2101